

NOMENCLATURAL CHANGES IN THE TREEHOPPER TRIBES
HOPLOPHORIONINI, SMILIINI, AND TALIPEDINI
(HOMOPTERA: MEMBRACIDAE)

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Abstract.—The following nomenclatural changes are made in the family Membracidae (Homoptera): *Aconophoroides* Fowler, 1894, is reinstated as a junior synonym of *Potnia* Stål, 1866; *Microschema* Stål, 1869, is considered to be a junior synonym of *Potnia* Stål, 1866, **NEW SYNONYMY**; *Talipes* Deitz, 1975, is considered to be a junior synonym of *Trinarea* Goding, 1926 (elevated to generic status), **NEW SYNONYMY**. Also nine **NEW COMBINATIONS** are given: *Metcalfiella spreta* (Goding, 1893), *Platycotis fuscata* (Fowler, 1897), *Potnia dubia* (Fowler, 1894), *Potnia orthosoma* (Fonseca and Diringshofen, 1974), and *Potnia straminicolor* (Stål, 1862) (Membracinae: Hoplophorionini); *Trinarea appendiculata* (Fonseca, 1936), *Trinarea carinata* (Funkhouser, 1922), and *Trinarea fenestrata* (Strümpel, 1974) (Membracinae: Talipedini); and *Ophiderma gloveri* (Goding, 1893) (Smiliinae: Smiliini). A lectotype is designated for *Platycotis spreta* Goding, 1893.

Key Words: Hexapoda, Insecta, generic synonymy, new combination

While revising selected genera in the membracid tribe Hoplophorionini, we found several species misplaced at the generic level, including three assigned to the wrong tribe. Some of the consequent transfers of species affect generic synonymy. Based on examination of type material (except as noted), nine new combinations are presented here under the higher categories to which the species are newly assigned.

Subfamily Membracinae

Tribe Hoplophorionini

Metcalfiella Goding, 1929

Metcalfiella spreta (Goding, 1893), **NEW COMBINATION**

A female specimen in the NMNH (National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.) is here designated lectotype of *Platycotis spreta* Goding. It bears the following labels in which vertical lines (|) are used to separate individual lines: "FWGoding|Collection" and "Platycotis| (Microschema)|spreta Godg. |Mex. (Ash) type" [underside with "Hoplophora|Gdg. |Mex. (Ash) Type."] and "Type No.|27388 |U.S.N.M." [on red card] and "Platycotis|spreta|Godg. |Det.W.D. |Funkhouser" [on red-bordered card] and "LECTOTYPE |Platycotis|spreta|Goding,1893|L.L. Deitz 1989" [on red-bordered card supplied by Deitz]. A second specimen (without an abdomen) from Goding's collection (NMNH) is now labeled as a paralectotype. These specimens belong to the genus *Metcalfiella* Goding, 1926, based on the narrow head and the presence of many more pale setae

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than pits on the pronotum (McKamey and Deitz 1991).

Platycotis Stål, 1869

Platycotis fuscata (Fowler, 1897), **NEW COMBINATION**

The lectotype of *Ochropepla fuscata* Fowler (BMNH: British Museum (Natural History), London, England), most recently placed in the genus *Hoplophorion* Kirkaldy, 1901 (Metcalf and Wade 1965), has a wide head and contrasting pale and dark bands across veins Sc and R on the forewing base, but lacks an r-m crossvein on the hind wing. This combination of features is diagnostic for the genus *Platycotis* Stål, 1869 (McKamey 1989).

Potnia Stål, 1866

Potnia Stål, 1866 [Stål 1866b, not Stål 1866a as listed by Deitz (1975)]

Aconophoroides Fowler, 1894, **REINSTATED SYNONYMY**

Microschema Stål, 1869, **NEW SYNONYMY**

Potnia dubia (Fowler, 1894), **NEW COMBINATION**

Potnia orthosoma (Fonseca and Diringshofen, 1974), **NEW COMBINATION**

Potnia straminicolor (Stål, 1862), **NEW COMBINATION**

The type species of *Potnia* Stål is *Membracis venosa* Germar, 1821. Based on examination of two probable syntypes of *M. venosa*, one from MLUH (Martin-Luther-Universität Halle, Halle, German Democratic Republic) and one from ZMUH (Zoologisches Museum, Universität von Hamburg, Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany), in conjunction with a review of generic limits in the tribe Hoplophorionini (McKamey 1989), the following combination of features appears to be diagnostic for *Potnia*: head narrow; pronotum extending posteriorly nearly to apex of forewing in repose; hind wing with r-m crossvein and with cell R_3 (the cell posterior to vein R_3 of Deitz

1975) longer than cell R_5 ; metathoracic tibia with cucullate setae in row I (*sensu* Deitz 1975).

Prior to the work by Fonseca and Diringshofen (1974), the genus *Aconophoroides* (type species: *Thelia gladiator* Walker, 1857) was considered to be a junior synonym of *Potnia* (Goding 1929, Metcalf and Wade 1965). Based on examination of the holotype of *T. gladiator* Walker (BMNH), we confirm this synonymy.

Although the type material of *Aconophoroides orthosoma* Fonseca and Diringshofen was not examined, the original description and illustrations (1974) indicate membership in the genus *Potnia*. Likewise, examinations of the lectotype of *Ochropepla dubia* Fowler (BMNH), a species formerly placed in *Hoplophorion* (Metcalf and Wade 1965), and of the holotype of *Hoplophora straminicolor* Stål (NHRS: Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, Sweden), the type species of *Microschema* Stål, led to the conclusion that these two species are also congeners of *Potnia venosa*. Thus, we list above three new combinations and the new generic synonymy of *Microschema*, which was previously considered a subgenus of *Platycotis*. The only other species formerly included in *Microschema*, *Platycotis spreta*, is transferred to *Metcalfiella*, above.

Hoplophora straminicolor was described from Brazil. Such a distribution for *Platycotis* would involve a geographic disjunction and a host shift, because the families Fagaceae (including *Quercus* spp.) and Betulaceae, which encompass all known hosts of *Platycotis*, do not occur in Brazil (Heywood 1985). This information alone suggested that the species was placed incorrectly, and also suggests that a similar taxonomic error may be involved with the Brazilian species *Platycotis sordida* (Germar, 1821), type material of which was not examined.

Subfamily Membracinae

Tribe Talipedini

Trinarea Goding, 1926

Trinarea Goding, 1926, elevated to generic status, **NEW STATUS**

Talipes Deitz, 1975, to *Trinarea* Goding, 1926, **NEW SYNONYMY**

Trinarea appendiculata (Fonseca, 1936), **NEW COMBINATION**

Trinarea carinata (Funkhouser, 1922), **NEW COMBINATION**

Trinarea fenestrata (Strümpel, 1974), **NEW COMBINATION**

Trinarea was formerly placed as a subgenus of *Hoplophorion* (Metcalf and Wade 1965). Although Metcalf and Wade (1965: 578) attributed the designation of a type species to Goding (1929), Goding (1926:305) wrote "type" before the name *carinata* in his key to subgenera. Thus, *Ochropepla carinata* Funkhouser is the type of *Trinarea* by original designation (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature 1985: Articles 68b, 67c). The holotype of *O. carinata* (NMNH) and the holotype and paratypes of *Tylopelta fenestrata* Strümpel (ZMUH) were examined and found to be congeneric with *Talipes appendiculata* (Fonseca, 1936), the type species of *Talipes* Deitz, 1975. Members of the genus *Talipes* differ from other membracids in having foliaceous pro- and mesothoracic tibiae but metathoracic legs with clavate tibiae and reduced tarsi (Deitz 1975). *Trinarea* is therefore given generic status, with *Talipes* as its junior synonym, but the tribal name Talipedini Deitz, 1975, is retained (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature 1985: Article 40a).

Subfamily Smiliinae

Tribe Smiliini

Ophiderma Fairmaire, 1846

Ophiderma gloveri (Goding, 1893), **NEW COMBINATION**

Goding (1893) described *Hoplophora gloveri* by reference to an illustration by Glover (1878), and no specimen could be located at either AMNH (American Museum of Natural History, New York) or NMNH, known depositories of Goding's type specimens. *H. gloveri* was placed most recently (Metcalf and Wade 1965) as a junior synonym of *Hoplophorion monogramma* (Germar, 1835). Although the illustrated specimen was identified in Glover's figure legend as "*Hoplophora* n.s.," its forewing has a preapical confluence of the radial and medial veins, which is characteristic of the Smiliinae and absent from Hoplophorionini. Forewing venation and pronotal coloration and contour, in lateral view, indicate the specimen illustrated is best referred to the genus *Ophiderma* Fairmaire (Smiliinae: Smiliini). The precise identity of *H. gloveri* is likely to remain uncertain in the absence of the original material on which Glover's figure was based.

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